

TYPES OF WIVES IDENTIFIED IN SCRIPTURES

1) THE GENESIS 2:18 WIFE

Genesis 2:18 (NIV)

The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

Genesis 2:18 (AMPC)

Now the Lord God said, it is not good (sufficient, satisfactory) that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper (suitable, adapted, complementary) for him.

A few things to note in order to understand this type of wife

- i) Man was so focused on his God-given assignment and dwelling in God’s presence however, man was alone (not lonely). Then, God **recognized** and took **responsibility** for man’s aloneness (“all one”).

Genesis 2:18 (NIV) - The LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him.”

Genesis 2:18 (AMPC) - Now the Lord God said, it is not good (sufficient, satisfactory) that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper (suitable, adapted, complementary) for him.

*The Genesis 2:18 wife is a woman on an assignment and that assignment can only be fulfilled in a specific environment. Therefore, this type of wife is only suitable for a man with “an assignment” and in “the presence” of God.

- ii) God resolved man’s “aloneness” in a unique way. Usually, the cure/solution for aloneness is having a companion. However, the companion in this case was custom designed by God with unique qualities.

Genesis 2:18b (AMPC) - ... I will make him a helper (suitable, adapted, complementary) for him.

Genesis 2:18b (NIV) - ... I will make a helper suitable for him.”

Genesis 2:18 (AMP) - ... I will make him a helper [one who balances him—a counterpart who is] suitable and complementary for him.”

*The Genesis 2:18 wife is one whom God takes responsibility for her “making” (bringing about; fashioning; producing). To suit man’s “aloneness”, she is on an assignment to both “help” and be “a companion” that is suitable, adapted, complementary and one who balances.

iii) She is a helper **suitable for him** not a **suitable helper** for him.

Meaning, the Lord knows what is best for him (the man) and understands the end from the beginning as concerns the man’s assignment. So, the Lord, if permitted by man will lead the man to a help suitable (one who is needed to fulfill assignment; one who is capable of evolving with the growth of the man’s assignment; one who has capacity for the specific assignment) *not* a suitable helper (one who is wanted and meets only instant needs, therefore, unable to evolve and accommodate growth in the man’s assignment).

She is...

-A helper from the Lord to her husband.

-A companion suitable, adapted, complementary to her husband.

-One who understands and seeks to understand when her services are needed. She does not seek to take over her husband’s assignment.

-One who understands that God is not attempting to “satisfy” or make her husband “sufficient” (Genesis 2:18a AMPC) at her expense.

-One who lives in unity and oneness. Therefore, there is agreement.

The result of the Genesis 2:18 wife

- Help
- Companionship
- Peace
- Quiet
- Harmony
- Productivity
- Blessing the many

2) THE PROVERBS 18:22 WIFE

Proverbs 18:22 (NIV)

He who finds a wife, finds what is good and obtains favor from the Lord.

“Good”- a Hebrew word “towb” which means pleasant; agreeable; good.

The Proverbs 18:22 wife is a wife

- Is one who gives a sense of happy satisfaction or enjoyment (pleasant).
- Is one who is enjoyable and pleasurable, willing to agree to something (agreeable).
- Who is to be desired or approved of (good).
- Is a woman of great value.

Therefore, the one who **finds** a Proverbs 18:22 **wife** is

- A husband (husband material).
- One who can identify and appreciate value.
- One who is decisive (to be with her or not).
- One who cares about her wellbeing and not out to destroy her.

The Proverbs 18:22 wife.

-Is one who purposefully invest in herself in order to become the best her (a woman of value/substance).

-She is pursued; she does not pursue.

-She is not flashy and does not seek attention. The one who finds her must be keen and observant.

-She is filled with so much insight.

-She is a carrier of favor. The one who finds her experiences favor.

3) THE QUARRELSOME WIFE

Proverbs 19:13 (NIV)

A foolish child is a father's ruin, and a quarrelsome wife is like the constant dripping of a leaky roof.

A quarrelsome wife

-Is a wife who “malfunctions” and it is demonstrated through quarrels, wrangling, contention, nagging.

-Does not understand the value of herself and others.

-Wastes her resources (energy, time, etc.) and the resources of others.

Proverbs 21:9 (NIV)

Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.

A quarrelsome wife

-Belongs to the category of nagging, quarrelsome and faultfinding women.

-Abuses the privilege of companionship.

-Inconveniences others.

-Is selfish.

Proverbs 21:19 (NIV)

Better to live in a desert than with a quarrelsome and nagging wife.

A quarrelsome wife

- Is unfruitful and will cause others to choose unfruitfulness, possibly out of frustration
- Is unproductive.

Proverbs 25:24 (NIV)

Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.

Proverbs 25:24 (AMPC)

It is better to dwell in the corner of the housetop than to share a house with a disagreeing, quarrelsome, *and* scolding woman.

A quarrelsome wife

- Belongs to the category of the disagreeing, quarrelsome and scolding women.
- Is a source of inconvenience.

4) THE “BUILDER” WIFE

Proverbs 14:1 (AMPC)

Every wise woman **builds** her house, but the foolish one tears it down with her own hands.

The builder wife

- Fears God, therefore, she is full of wisdom.
- Is a builder of people and homes.
- Is established and she establishes. Therefore, she is creative, courageous, a starter.
- Is a visionary.

5) THE RESPECTFUL WIFE

Ephesians 5:33b (NIV)

...and the wife must **respect** her husband.

Ephesians 5:33b (AMPC)

and the wife [must see to it] that she **respects** *and* delights in her husband [that she notices him and prefers him and treats him with loving concern, treasuring him, honoring him, and holding him dear].

Ephesians 5:33b (AMPC)

...and let the wife see that she **respects** *and* reverences her husband [that she notices him, regards him, honors him, prefers him, venerates, and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly].

To “submit” to a husband is quite different from “respecting” a husband. However, it is impossible to submit and not respect.

Respect from a wife to her husband is a “must”. It is a necessary requirement for a successful home.

6) THE SUBMISSIVE WIFE

Ephesians 5:22 (NIV)

Wives, submit yourselves to your **own** husbands as you do to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:22 (AMPC)

Wives, be subject (be submissive and adapt yourselves) to your **own** husbands as [a service] to the Lord.

Ephesians 5:22 (AMP)

Wives, be subject to your **own** husbands, as [a service] to the Lord.

-A wife who submits, does so as a service to the Lord.

-A wife ought to be submissive to her *own* husband not every other woman's husband.

This is so because God said in **Genesis 2:18 (NIV)**... **I will make him** a helper (suitable, adapted, complementary) for him.

-A submissive wife's responsibility is to the one she is suitable, adapted, complementary to and the one whom she balances. By being submissive, she is offering her services (of obedience) to the Lord by fulfilling her assignment as a helper.

Principle of adaptation

*When you adapt, you do not become the other thing. You assume the form of the other thing for a purpose/season. Therefore, your unique identity is not lost in the process.

(To be helpful (**Genesis 2:18 (AMPC)**); To be submissive (**Ephesians 5:33 (AMPC)**) and to be obedient (**Titus 2:5 (AMPC)**) to one's husband is to be "adaptive".)

1 Peter 3:1a (NIV)

Wives, in the same way submit yourselves to your **own** husbands...

-Submission is to one's own husband not all husbands.

*Wives ought not to be adapting herself to other women's husbands because God did not "make" them suitable, adaptive and complementary for those husbands. Neither are they capable of balancing those husbands.

-Submit is the Greek word "hupotasso" – to place or rank under, to subject, to obey.

7) THE WISE, UNDERSTANDING AND "PRUDENT" WIFE

Proverbs 19:14 (AMPC)

House and riches are the inheritance from fathers, but **a wise, understanding, and prudent wife** is from the Lord.

- She is from the Lord, not the roadside (a type of Genesis 2:18).
- She is a woman of class. She belongs among the wise and understanding.
- She understands and demonstrates understanding. 1 Corinthians 7:2-5.

8) THE PROVERBS 12:4a WIFE

Proverbs 12:4 (NIV)

A wife of noble character is her husband's **crown**, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.

Proverbs 12:4 (AMP)

A virtuous *and* excellent wife [worthy of honor] is the **crown** of her husband,
But she who shames him [with her foolishness] is like rottenness in his bones.

Proverbs 12:4 (AMPC)

A virtuous *and* worthy wife [earnest and strong in character] is a **crowning joy** to her husband, but she who makes him ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

Other translations refer to her as

- A helpful wife...
- A good wife...
- A capable wife...
- A valiant wife...
- A diligent woman...
- Etc.

9) THE DISGRACEFUL WIFE

Proverbs 12:4 (NIV)

A wife of noble character is her husband's **crown**, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones.

Proverbs 12:4 (AMP)

A virtuous *and* excellent wife [worthy of honor] is the **crown** of her husband, But she who shames him [with her foolishness] is like rottenness in his bones.

Proverbs 12:4 (AMPC)

A virtuous *and* worthy wife [earnest and strong in character] is a **crowning joy** to her husband, but she who makes him ashamed is as rottenness in his bones.

- The disgraceful wife is a foolish wife (unwise).
- The disgraceful wife “brings shame”, “causes shame”, “does shameful things”, etc.
- The disgraceful wife weakens the strength of her husband's identity - **Proverbs 12:4 (TPT) ...** But the wife who disgraces her husband weakens the strength of his identity.
- The disgraceful wife is like cancer to her husband's bones; wearing him out slowly but surely.

10) THE TEACHABLE WIFE

Titus 2:3-5 (AMPC)

³Bid the older women similarly to be reverent *and* devout in their deportment as becomes those engaged in sacred service, not slanderers or slaves to drink. They are to give good **counsel *and* be teachers** of what is right *and* noble, ⁴ So that they will **wisely train the young women** to be sane and sober of mind (temperate, disciplined) and to love their husbands and their children, ⁵ To be self-controlled, chaste, homemakers, good-natured (kindhearted), **adapting and subordinating** themselves to their husbands, that the word of God may not be exposed to reproach (blasphemed or discredited).

1 Timothy 2:11 (AMPC)

Let a woman learn in quietness, in entire submissiveness.

11) THE OBEDIENT WIFE

Titus 2:5 (NKJV)

to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their **own** husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

Titus 2:5 (CEV)

Each of the younger women must be sensible and kind, as well as a good homemaker, who puts her **own husband first**. Then no one can say insulting things about God's message.

Titus 2:5 (AMPC)

To be self-controlled, chaste, homemakers, good-natured (kindhearted), adapting and subordinating themselves to their husbands, that the word of God may not be exposed to reproach (blasphemed or discredited).

12) THE WIFE WHO IS ALSO “A MOTHER” - (A GOOD HOME MAKER)

Titus 2:5 (NKJV)

to be discreet, chaste, **homemakers**, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

Titus 2:5 (CEV)

Each of the younger women must be sensible and kind, as well as a **good homemaker**, who puts her own husband first. Then no one can say insulting things about God's message.

13) THE WIFE WHO IS ALSO “A MOTHER” AND “MINISTER”

¹The words of Lemuel king of Massa, which his mother taught him: ²What, my son? What, son of my womb? What [shall I advise you], son of my vows *and* dedication to God? ³Give not your strength to [loose] women, nor your ways to those who *and* that which ruin *and* destroy kings.

⁴It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, or for rulers to desire strong drink, ⁵Lest they drink and forget the law *and* what it decrees, and pervert the justice due any of the afflicted. ⁶Give strong drink [as medicine] to him who is ready to pass away, and wine to him in bitter distress of heart. ⁷Let him drink and forget his poverty and [seriously] remember his want *and* misery no more. ⁸Open your mouth for the dumb [those unable to speak for themselves], for the rights of all who are left desolate *and* defenseless; ⁹Open your mouth, judge righteously, and administer justice for the poor and needy.

- She is fruitful. She bares both biological and spiritual children.
- She is a (balanced) teacher of the word (vs 1).
- She advises and cautions her child(ren) (vs 3).
- She trains them in their calling (assignment). Lemuel was advised as king, not as ordinary.
- She equips the child(ren) with core values.
- She provides specific criteria for the things to look out for (Proverbs 31:10-31).

14) THE PROVERBS 31:10-31 WIFE – SHE IS “A WIFE,” “A MOTHER” AND “A MINISTER”.

- As a wife, she has specific assignments to her husband.

- As a mother, she has specific assignments to her household and the household of God.
- As a minister, she never ceases to advance the kingdom in her household and the house of God.

Proverbs 31:10-31 (AMPC)

*Wife, mother and minister.

¹⁰ A capable, intelligent, *and* virtuous woman—who is he who can find her? She is far more precious than jewels *and* her value is far above rubies *or* pearls.

-She is a type of Proverbs 18:22 woman.

- Who can find her? A husband! A man of substance.

- She is pursued. She does not pursue.

- She is a woman of wisdom (insight).

- The one who finds her obtains favor from the Lord.

*Wife

¹¹ The heart of her husband trusts in her confidently *and* relies on and believes in her securely, so that he has no lack of [honest] gain or need of [dishonest] spoil.

-She is trustworthy and reliable.

-She brings value, not dishonest spoil.

***Wife**

12 She comforts, encourages, and does him only good as long as there is life within her.

***Wife, mother and minister**

13 She seeks out wool and flax and works with willing hands [to develop it].

- She is creative.
- She seeks opportunities to improve herself.
- She is hardworking.

***Wife and mother**

14 She is like the merchant ships loaded with foodstuffs; she brings her household's food from a far [country].

- She is gets creative with her family meals. She has them try foods from different nationalities.

***Wife, mother and minister**

15 She rises while it is yet night and gets [spiritual] food for her household and assigns her maids their tasks.

- She cares about the spiritual health of her household
- She delegates with wisdom.
- Her services to God precede her services to man.

***Wife, mother and minister**

¹⁶ She considers a [new] field before she buys *or* accepts it [expanding prudently and not courting neglect of her present duties by assuming other duties]; with her savings [of time and strength] she plants fruitful vines in her vineyard.

-She is very thoughtful (reasonable, sensible, etc.)

-She does not “rob Peter to pay Paul”.

-She uses her time wisely.

-She invests her strength resources wisely (on important things).

-She is productive (fruitful).

***Wife, mother and minister**

¹⁷ She girds herself with strength [spiritual, mental, and physical fitness for her God-given task] and makes her arms strong *and* firm.

-Her security for her God-given task is spiritual, mental and in her physical fitness.

-She lives a balanced and healthy spiritual life as she fulfills purpose.

***Minister**

¹⁸ She tastes *and* sees that her gain from work [with and for God] is good; her lamp goes not out, but it burns on continually through the night [of trouble, privation, or sorrow, warning away fear, doubt, and distrust].

-She evaluates her work (profit) for/with God and makes necessary adjustments.

-In difficult seasons, she keeps the lamp of God burning. She is an overcomer. She is not overcome.

***Mother**

19 She lays her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. (AMP)

She is skilled in the crafts of home and hearth, diligent in homemaking. (MSG)

***Minister**

20 She opens her hand to the poor, yes, she reaches out her filled hands to the needy [whether in body, mind, or spirit].

***Difference between poor and needy**

Needy in the economical sense means so poor as to be unable to obtain the necessities of life – food, clothing, shelter, etc.

If you are needy, then you are poor. But if you are poor, state welfare and private charity may provide enough to make sure you are not needy.

-She is rich therefore, able to help the poor, without hesitation.

-She is balanced in body, mind and spirit, therefore, filled enough to offer her services to help those in need (in the areas of body, mind and spirit).

-She always has something to offer. No one encounters her and leaves the same.

***Mother**

21 She fears not the snow for her family, for all her household are doubly clothed in scarlet.

-She is proactive in her care for the family.

-She is wise, so she does not allow seasons to take her by surprise.

-She is prudent (sensible)

-Her family is not a victim of changing seasons.

***Mother**

²² She makes for herself coverlets, cushions, *and* rugs of tapestry. Her clothing is of linen, pure *and* fine, and of purple [such as that of which the clothing of the priests and the hallowed cloths of the temple were made].

-She is very creative.

-She is a woman of style and standard/taste.

-She dresses as royalty.

-Her clothing reflects that she belongs to a divine class (priests and ministers). Therefore, she dresses like she would like to be addressed.

***Wife**

²³ Her husband is known in the [city's] gates, when he sits among the elders of the land. (AMPC)

Her husband is greatly respected when he deliberates with the city fathers. (MSG)

-She is a respectful wife. Thereby, fulfilling her purpose (Ephesians 5:33b).

-She speaks well of him in public and sets the precedence for others to do likewise.

-She helps her husband live his full potential by respecting him.

***Minister**

24 She makes fine linen garments *and* leads others to buy them; she delivers to the merchants girdles [or sashes that free one up for service].

-She is creative.

-She is hardworking.

-She is a servant.

-She is lucrative.

***Mother**

25 Strength and dignity are her clothing *and* her position is strong and secure; she rejoices over the future [the latter day or time to come, knowing that she and her family are in readiness for it]!

-She is a woman of character and substance.

-She is not a pushover.

-She is proactive and always in a state of readiness.

-She is reliable/dependable.

-She moves circumspectly.

***Minister**

26 She opens her mouth in skillful and godly Wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness [giving counsel and instruction].

-She is not flippant; does not speak vain words or carelessly.

-She is a woman of substance and it is reflective in her words.

-She gives both counsel and instruction. Therefore, there is order in her world.

***Mother**

27 She looks well to how things go in her household, and the bread of idleness (gossip, discontent, and self-pity) she will not eat. (AMPC)

She keeps an eye on everyone in her household, and keeps them all busy and productive. (MSG)

***Wife, mother and minister**

28 Her children rise up and call her blessed (happy, fortunate, and to be envied); and her husband boasts of and praises her, [saying], ²⁹ Many daughters have done virtuously, nobly, *and* well [with the strength of character that is steadfast in goodness], but you excel them all.

30 Charm *and* grace are deceptive, and beauty is vain [because it is not lasting], but a woman who reverently *and* worshipfully fears the Lord, she shall be praised!

³¹ Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates [of the city]! (AMPC)

³¹ Give her everything she deserves! Festoon her life with praises! (MSG)

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